

NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR NEWSLETTER WINTER EDITION - 2008

Be Safe This Holiday Season – Don't Become a Statistic!

Every year we share tips on protecting your property and ways to stay safe. It is worth repeating, especially during the holiday season.

Security begins at the door!

Consider installing a peephole or eye viewer in the front door. They are inexpensive and allow you to view the caller before opening the door. If you do not know the person at the door, do not open the door. Never allow them into your home. Tell them to leave information regarding their product, their visit, etc. near the door and you can pick it up a little later, it is not convenient now. If they say they are a service person, use the phone book to obtain the business number. Call the business; ask if an employee should be at your home. Before you open the door, get a name and/or ID number of the employee, then have the person at your door show ID or give a name (that name should match the name/ID you were told on the phone). Remember, you never have to open the door, just yell through the door that you are not interested. By yelling out, this lets the person know someone is home.



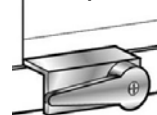
In Fremont, door-to-door solicitors must have a permit to sell door to door. Ask for their permit or license number. If a license or permit number is not provided, call the Police general business number (510) 790-6800 to notify dispatch of any unusual activity or suspicious persons.

Deadbolt Lock & Strike Plate



Deadbolt locks make it more difficult to get into a house. There are many good deadbolt locks on the market. If you have solid core doors (doors of solid wood without glass, or metal doors with fire resistant fill between) you can use the single cylinder deadbolt lock, having a one inch (1") throw, bolt has a hardened steel insert, and a cylinder guard on the exterior side. Make sure the strike plate have a minimum of 4 screws, 3" in length.

Windows




Close and latch all doors and windows before leaving your house. It is estimated that in 30% of home burglaries, the house was left unlocked or windows unsecured. Remember, whatever type of lock you have, is of no help if you do not use it.



Vehicle Safety Tips

- Close your windows, lock your doors, and conceal all valuables.
- Park in a well-lit, well-traveled area.
- If you have a garage, use it! Don't leave your car parked outside if you don't have to.
- Do not leave packages, purses, wallets, computers, DVD's, CD's, cell phones, remote garage door openers or any other valuables in your vehicle because they will attract criminals. If you must do so, place them out of sight or in the trunk **before** you arrive at your destination.
- Use an alarm that shuts off the vehicle's electrical system when activated. Steering wheel locks and other anti-theft devices are highly recommended.
- When walking to your car, have your keys in hand to help you make a quick entry. Lock the door as soon as you get inside.
- Be careful when loading groceries, packages and children into your car. It is easy to be distracted at this time, thus allowing a criminal to surprise you.
- Don't carry so much that you cannot see if someone approaches you or cannot use your hands to defend yourself if necessary.
- Never leave your car unattended with the keys inside. It only takes a second for a thief to jump in and take your car.
- To avoid being seen during these crimes, criminals sometimes remove, break or loosen light bulbs in carports, parking lots and driveways. Please replace or report any lights that are not working to apartment management, your homeowners association or whoever is responsible for lighting in your area.

What is Considered Suspicious Activity?

1. Non-resident going door to door in residential area and after a few houses are visited, one or more of the subjects walk into the side or back yard.
 2. Forcing entrance into or tampering with a residence or vehicle.
 3. Person running and something of value is being carried.
 4. Excessive, ongoing human traffic to and from a certain residence during unusual or late hours.
 5. Slow moving vehicles, without lights, driving around aimlessly or repetitive in a neighborhood and there has been recent crime in the area.
 6. Parked, occupied vehicles with one or more persons, especially at unusual hours.
 7. Vehicles being loaded with valuables that is parked in front of a closed business or unattended residence.
 8. Persons detaching mechanical parts or accessories from a vehicle parked on a street or in a parking lot.
 9. Properties, such as, TV's, stereos, tape decks or auto parts observed in vehicles.
 10. Open or broken doors or windows at closed businesses or residences whose owners are temporarily absent.
 11. Unusual noises, such as, gunshots, screaming, sounds of fighting or constant dog barking or alarm sounding
 12. Be extra careful when buying on-line or answering an advertisement.
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Only meet individuals in a public place to purchase items and be sure to check the merchandise before handing over the payment.

Call the police when you see or hear any of these occurrences!

**In progress, emergency – 911
All other, non-emergency – 790-6800, press 0**

“What can we do, as residents of Fremont, to help deter crime in our neighborhood?”

- Start a neighborhood crime watch program
- Ask each neighbor to install and use a stationary light in front of the house
- Keep landscaping neatly trimmed
- Install a lock on the side fence leading to the rear of the house
- Share telephone numbers with your neighbors so you can contact each other with concerns, including activity occurring in the neighborhood
- Report all suspicious activity and vandalism to the non-emergency number, 790-6800.
- Let your neighbor know when you are on vacation or business trip.
- Install surveillance cameras.



Crime Free Multi-Housing Program



The Crime Free Multi-Housing (CFMH) is a program designed to make multi-family dwellings and single family rental homes safe and desirable places to live. The CFMH program provides a partnership between police, local property owners/managers, and residents to foster a safe, healthy, crime free community in rental housing. CFMH is *pro-property manager, pro-resident, and anti-crime*.

Whether you are a property owner, manager, assistant manager, leasing agent, office staff, maintenance staff or work with housing, everyone is encouraged to participate in the program.

The program uses a unique three-phase approach that ensures resident friendly techniques will be applied to achieve crime prevention goals.

The three components that make up the program are:

- Management Training (Phase I- Green certificate)
- Security Assessment (Phase II-Red certificate)
- Resident Safety/Crime Watch (Phase III-Blue certificate)
- Full Certification Status (Gold Certificate)



All three phases of the program must be met before the property/complex can be certified in the CFMH program. The three phases do not need to be completed in any particular order.

The Fremont Police Department is currently working in partnership with over 45 apartment communities. We have 12 fully certified communities: Maple Square Apartments, SunPointe Apartments, Trinity Townhomes, Chapel Corner Senior Apartments, Archstone Center at Fremont; DaCosta Castle Apartments; Sundale Arms, Windsor Garden Apartments, Glenview and Glen Haven Apartments and Sundale North and Sundale South Apartments.

Benefits of the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program

Management Benefits:

- A stable, more satisfied resident base.
- Increased demand for rental units with a reputation for active management.
- Lower maintenance and repair costs.
- Increased property values.
- Improved personal safety for tenants, managers, and owners.
- More time for routine management and less time on crisis control.
- More appreciative neighbors.
- Peace of mind that comes from spending more time on routine management and less on crisis control.

Resident Benefits:

- Safer, more secure environment.
- Improved personal safety for renters and their families.
- Confidence in knowing building meets minimum security requirement.
- Involvement in the community.
- Improved quality of life.
- Healthier family environment.

Law Enforcement Benefits:

- Tried and True Crime Prevention Methods.
- Confirmed drop in calls for service.
- Improved quality of life for the community at large.
- Teaches property managers and residents how to work with police and neighbors to keep drugs and other illegal activity out of rental property.
- A community oriented policing approach to Crime Prevention

Screening Tenants:

Usually when property is rented, management wants to make sure that it stays crime free. Filling a vacancy is easy, but filling a vacancy with a tenant who will pay the rent on time, not annoy neighbors, and keep the property in decent condition can be difficult.

BE SAFE...

When you rent an apartment, you need to accept the responsibility to protect yourself, your possessions, and personal safety of others. Although management is obligated to provide basic security, items such as locks and exterior lights, in no way should they be expected to be responsible for your complete security. You must be aware of basic crime prevention techniques and practice them.

Do more than the minimum and be involved in your community. Every tenant plays a very important role in helping make your apartment community a safe place for everyone.

View your relationships with your apartment managers/owners, staff, neighbors, and police as a partnership. All of us are allies and we constitute a force more powerful than crime itself.

**For more information or other questions
please contact Officer Robyn Berlin.
Phone Number: (510) 790-6908
Fax Number: (510) 790-6901
rberlin@fremont.gov**

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Fremont Police Department prides itself on the dedication and selflessness of its volunteers. The contributions of the men, women and teenagers who lend us their time everyday, creates an ability composed of the strengths of grand masses. Nothing can stop our volunteers when they set out on their mission of contribution.

Of the 143 Police volunteers, a few have demonstrated the act of going above and beyond. From volunteering over 400 hours in one year alone, to coming in over 30 hours a week, is proof in itself that the dedication shows no sign of slowing down.

Volunteer of the Year is a prestigious award that encompasses the appreciation of the entire Fremont Police Family and enables us to show our gratitude. This is our way of saying "Thank you, for everything that you have done for us".

This is why it is my honor to announce the **2008 Fremont Police Volunteer of the Year Sandra Castellanos.**



Sandra is a part of the Fremont Police CARE Unit and has volunteered 478 hours from Jan 1, 2007- November 1, 2008. Sandra is part of the Fremont Police Department's first CARE class and has been instrumental in making sure the program continues in the right direction, which is why it is extremely successful. Sandra played a large role in the Police Department's first Blood Drive at the Fremont Main Library, which served nearly 70 people. This is the highest number of blood donors that have ever come to a blood drive hosted by the Police Department.

Sandra is an incredibly selfless person who puts the welfare of our community members first, which is just one of the many reasons she is deserving of this coveted award. "Thank you", Sandra for all of your contributions to the City of Fremont. You are joy to work with and such a pleasure to know.

Important Numbers

Abandoned Vehicle Hotline – 790-6775

Animal Control – 790-6635

Code Enforcement – 494-4430

Desk Officer – 790-6844

Drug Enforcement (SACNET) – 476-2499

Gang Task Force – 477-1700

Graffiti Hotline – 979-5706

Neighborhood Watch – 790-6740

Non-Emergency Police – 790-6800

Fire Administration – 494-4299

Parks & Recreation – 494-4300

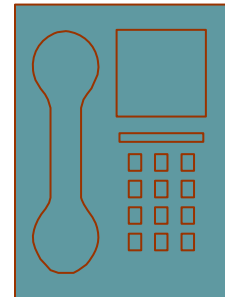
Police Records – 790-6560

Street Crimes Unit – 790-6906

City of Fremont Website – www.fremont.gov

Police Website – www.fremontpolice.org

(Get crime stats, press release, file report on-line, etc.)



Have a Wonderful and Safe Holiday Season!